

growth of firs, poplars, or willows, among which it is sometimes difficult to make one's way. We were now blessed with warm weather, and we enjoyed the diversified nature of this part of the way much.

ARRIVAL AT EDMONTON.

We reached Edmonton about 4 p.m., on Saturday, 29th ult., and were welcomed by Mr. Christie in his usual friendly way. Several of the gentlemen whom I had met at Carleton were there, and others from other inland trading posts, so that it was a good time for a visit, although it was a busy time with all at the Fort, as they were making up and sending off the supplies for the different posts—Edmonton being the great depot for the district. It is a large, well-kept establishment, with long rows of good dwellings for the men employed. Blacksmiths, boat builders, carpenters, farmers, &c., are employed there. About twenty boats are built every year at Edmonton, all of pine, which is large and abundant in the neighborhood. Farming is now carried on to a considerable extent, the crops having turned out well this season—wheat, barley, and potatoes being the principal products. A large number of cattle and pigs are also kept, and, of course, an abundance of horses.

We remained at Edmonton till Tuesday forenoon, 2nd ult. We had services every evening and twice on Sabbath, and also a service in Cree in an Indian tent on Sabbath afternoon. I baptized a child for a member of the Kildonan congregation, at present at Edmonton.

On Monday evening, after worship, I addressed those who were present, stating that I had come merely to visit them—that although I had pitched my camp a long way from them, I had a wish to visit that place, as I knew that there were so many of my co-religionists there—that I was sorry so little was being done for their spiritual welfare—that I had long been impressed with the necessity of a missionary being employed to visit the forts and trading posts, and to establish schools where necessary—that as I knew that a great many of the Company's servants had been brought up as Presbyterians, I had more than once written to our Mission Committee on the subject—but that we are only, as a Church, in the infancy of our Mission operations, and have not the means of doing *all* we desire to do, more especially as there are so many new settlements in Canada demanding attention. I stated that I would consult with Mr. McDougall on my return to Victoria, and see what can be done to increase the supply of preaching, &c., and that I hoped they would all cheerfully attend the services of any Protestant minister who might come among them preaching the pure Gospel, although the forms, &c., might not be exactly what they had been accustomed to in youth and in their native land. I distributed among those present such tracts as I had and some copies of the shorter catechism, and I left with Mr. C. a number of bibles, both English and Gaelic, to sell to such as wanted them.

There were no miners in the immediate neighbourhood of the Fort; at present they are working both above and below, some even below Victoria. I did not see any of them at work, as my time would not permit. As far as I could learn there may be about thirty at present in the district, extending over seventy-five miles in length, but it is believed that were it not for fear of the Blackfoot tribe of Indians, who have already killed a good number of American miners, many would come across the mountains, and it is confidently expected that much richer "diggings" would be found nearer the mountains than Edmonton. It is reported that the miners are determined to make a regular attack upon the Blackfeet next spring. There may be changes in store for this land, and if they once begin they will be speedy and great.